

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the application, and for allowing claims 1-16 and 24-25.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-28 were previously pending. By way of this reply, claims 17-23 and 26-28 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 1-16 and 24-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 24, and 25 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from the independent claims.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 17-23 and 26-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 17-23 and 26-28 have been canceled by way of this reply, thus the rejection is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17063.004001).

Dated: November 15, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Application No. (if known): 10/719,335

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Amendment (9 pages)
Amendment Transmittal (1 page)
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